

DOE Weekly Field Memo – January 13, 2010

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Early Education Initiative Grant Applications for 2010-2011

Audience: Superintendents, Special Education Directors, Elementary School Principals

The department is seeking Early Education Initiative (EEI) grant applications for the 2010-2011 academic year. Partnerships composed of school districts and community early childhood education providers who plan to submit an application should e-mail a Letter of Intent by **January 25, 2010**. **Applications for this competitive grant process are due March 25, 2010**. General information on the purpose of EEI grants and application process is available at the link below. The maximum EEI award is \$30,000. In addition, grants are contingent upon legislative approval of the proposed budget. Visit

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_earlyed.html#eei_application.

Contact: Shirley Rawson at (802) 828-5128 or shirley.rawson@state.vt.us

Food Service Grant Application for 2011

Audience: Principals, Food Service Managers

Use the link below to view a memo and an application for the 2011 Food Service Equipment Grant. These grants are intended to help school food service programs acquire needed equipment or replace worn-out items. By providing an annual grant program, the department can support schools in developing forward-thinking equipment replacement plans. This grant does not apply to equipment that has already been purchased. **Applications for Food Service Equipment Grants must be received at the Child Nutrition Programs office by 4:30 p.m. on April 2, 2010**. Applications received after this date will not be accepted for this round. Faxed submissions will not be accepted.

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_nutrition/school_nutrition/resources.html#grant_app

Contact: Cheryl Barrows at (802) 828-2447 or cheryl.barrows@state.vt.us

ARRA Funds Support Content-based Grants at Vermont Schools

Audience: Superintendents, Principals, Technology Coordinators

Over \$400,000 in ARRA funds were awarded to a host of schools throughout the state that responded to the Content-based Technology Grant Program. Schools applied for grants under various content areas and received grants from \$4,000 to \$10,000. Grants were directed to classroom situations, and technology equipment and software was requested to meet specific learning tasks in classrooms. Some examples included Kindles for Literacy, digital storytelling with iPods and Flip cameras, and Smartboards for Arts and Social Studies. Schools should be receiving funds shortly to begin projects slated for this school year through the fall. For information on the schools that were funded and the amounts, refer to the document at http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_edtech.html#content_awards.

Contact: Peter Drescher, Education Technology Coordinator, (802) 828-5149 or peter.drescher@state.vt.us

Item and Bias Review for the 2010 NECAP Assessments: Memo & Application Form

Audience: Teachers, Special Educators, Administrators Working with Students in Grades 3-8 and/or Grade 10

The department is requesting help and expertise in support of the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP). On March 3, 4 and 5, a NECAP bias and item review session will take place at the Courtyard Marriott in Nashua, N.H. The purpose of this session will be to review the reading and math

Courtyard Marriott in Nashua, N.H. The purpose of this session will be to review the reading and math items that are proposed to be on the 2010 fall NECAP Assessment. **Applications are due January 29, 2010.** For more information and to apply, visit

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment/necap.html#bias.

Contact: Mary Ann Minardo at (802) 828-5410 or maryann.minardo@state.vt.us

NECAP Reading, Math & Writing Assessment Results to be Released

Audience: All

Reading, Math and Writing assessment results for Fall 2009 will be released publicly on February 2, 2010 by the department. The results are from the New England Common Assessment Program (NECAP) Reading, Math and Writing assessment given to Vermont public school students in grades 3-8 and grade 11 in October 2009. For more info:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment/necap.html#memo

Contact: Michael Hock at (802) 828-3115 or michael.hock@state.vt.us

NECAP Student Data Verification and Embargo

Audience: Superintendents and Principals

Instructions for verifying student-level data files for each grade level assessed in the school will be sent to school administrators. For more info:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment/necap.html#memo

Contact: Mary Ann Minardo at (802) 828-5410 or maryann.minardo@state.vt.us

NECAP Analysis and Reporting Workshops

Audience: Any School Staff Members Directly Involved with Student Data and Analysis of Results

The department and Measured Progress will be conducting five reporting workshops in early February. These workshops are designed for principals, superintendents, and any staff members who are directly involved with student data and analysis of results. The workshops will provide an introduction to the new NECAP Analysis and Reporting System, including an overview of the various NECAP reports and support materials. Participants will receive instruction about how to sort and apply filters to Item Analysis Reports, access released item information, and view the new Longitudinal Student Report. Because much of this is new information, each school is encouraged to send at least one, but not more than two representatives to one of these workshops. For more info:

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/pgm_assessment/necap.html#memo

To register, visit <http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#reporting>.

Contact: Mary Ann Minardo at (802) 828-5410 or maryann.minardo@state.vt.us

Transformative High School Conference Seeking School Presenters

Audience: Superintendents, Principals

The department and the New England Secondary Schools Consortium (NESSC) seek three transforming Vermont high schools to present about their transformation work at the NESSC regional high school transformation conference on April 9, 2010 at the Radisson Hotel in Nashua, N.H. Proposals will be reviewed by department staff, and schools showing the greatest evidence of transformation will be visited during the last week of January or the first week of February to learn more about their work. Selections will be announced by February 15, 2010. To view the protocol information, visit

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/transformation.html#protocol>. Visit

<http://www.newenglandssc.org/2010conference.html> for conference information. **Please complete the protocol information and return before January 23, 2010** to: Carol Duley, NESSC Lead, Vermont Department of Education, 120 State Street, Montpelier, VT 05620.

Contact: Carol Duley at (802) 828-3843 or carol.duley@state.vt.us

Required Annual Public Reporting of HQT and Other Educator Quality Data

Audience: Superintendents, Principals, Special Education Directors, Career and Technical Center Directors, and Human Resources Managers and Assistants

Reports of 2008-2009 not-HQT and emergency licensure data for each school and LEA were mailed to superintendents on January 8, 2010. Also included were lists of the individual 2008-2009 "core" classes that were taught by teachers who were not HQT for their assignments. **Important – Please Note:** Starting in January 2011, the department will be publicly reporting individual LEA and school-level not-HQT and emergency licensure information on its Web site. The department will no longer be sending individual LEA reports to superintendents. Therefore, it is essential that you pay careful attention to how educator

assignment information is entered in the 2009-2010 Educator Census (to be mailed on 1/15/10) as you will no longer have the opportunity to correct your not-HQT data once it has been generated by us. More information will be forthcoming throughout the year regarding this change. Visit

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/licensing/hqt.html#annual_reporting.

Contact: Anne Bordonaro at (802) 828-0411 or anne.bordonaro@state.vt.us; or Lucinda Morabito at (802) 828-1455 or lucinda.morabito@state.vt.us

Save the Date: 2010 Vermont Kindergarten Conference

Audience: Kindergarten Teachers, Early Educators and Interested others

The department and the Early Childhood PreK-3 Program at the University of Vermont invite you to participate in the 18th Annual Vermont Kindergarten Conference at the Hilton Hotel in Burlington on April 9, 2010. This conference brings together kindergarten teachers, school administrators, pre-kindergarten teachers and administrators, teacher educators, researchers and pre-service teachers to explore evidence-based practices, discuss issues, learn from each other, and hopefully become rejuvenated and inspired. Karen Gallas will be the keynote speaker and workshop presenter. Keynote: Teaching from the Inside Out: Lessons from a Navajo Kindergarten. A conference brochure and registration form is available at: http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#kid_con.

Contact: Manuela Fonseca at (802) 828-3850 or manuela.fonseca@state.vt.us

Reminder: Professional Development: CLIMBS® Course (Includes Three Graduate Credits from St. Michael's College) for Teaching English Language Learners

Audience: Training Open to K-12 Educators From Any Region of Vermont (Not Limited to ESL teachers)

Dates: January 20 & 27, 2010; February 3, 10, & 17, 2010; March 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2010; April 7, 14 & 21; May 5 & 12, 2010. In partnership with the Burlington School District, the Champlain Valley Educator Development Center is offering the CLIMBS® course designed to assist K-12 educators in scaffolding instruction for the English language learners (ELLs) in their classrooms. Participants will learn how to implement the WIDA ELP Standards in ways that support ELL students' development of academic language and help ensure the students' access to grade-level content. The course was developed in response to requests from educators who work with ELLs to further efforts to close the language and academic achievement gaps between ELLs and their peers. Visit

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html#climbs>.

For more information, visit <http://cvedc.champlain.edu>.

Conference Contact: Darlene Worth, worth@champlain.edu

Contact: Jim McCobb at (802) 828-0185 or jim.mccobb@state.vt.us

Weekly Field Memo is Online!

The DOE Weekly Field Memo is archived on the Department of Education Web site at

http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/field_memo.html. Field Memos and the corresponding attachments are available for download. For Field Memo information three months or older, or for other questions, please contact Jill Remick, communications director, at (802) 828-3154 or jill.remick@state.vt.us.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

For the Department of Education Web site see: <http://education.vermont.gov/>. For upcoming events or professional development opportunities, see the DOE Calendar of Events located at:

<http://education.vermont.gov/new/html/dept/calendar.html>.

Main Department Line: (802) 828-3135

NOTE: For comments or questions specific to the messages above, please contact the person listed. DO NOT reply to this message.

This Field Memo is posted weekly by the Department of Education to better organize our e-communications to the field. There may be times when separate messages from the department will still be sent.